

Cabinet minutes

Wednesday 17 June 2020 at 4.00 p.m.

Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

Held in accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020; and conducted according to the Council's Standing Orders for Remote Meetings and those set out in the Council's Constitution.

Present

Councillor Bird	Leader of the Council
Councillor Andrew	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Martin	Adult Social Care
Councillor Butler	Clean and green
Councillor Perry	Community, leisure and culture
Councillor Towe	Education and skills
Councillor Craddock	Health and wellbeing
Councillor Chattha	Personnel and business support

3554 Welcome

At this point, the Leader opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, and explaining the rules of procedure and legal context in which the meeting was being held. He also directed members of the public viewing the meeting to the papers which could be found on the Council's Committee Management Information system (CMIS) webpage.

3555 Minutes

Councillor Bird moved approval of the minutes of the meeting on 19 May 2020 which was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members

The motion subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2020 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

3556 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3557 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985

Resolved (by assent)

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items set out in the private part of the agenda for the reasons set out therein and Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

3558 Petitions

No petitions were received

3559 Questions

No questions from the public had been received

3560 Forward plan

The forward plan as at 8 June 2020 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

That the forward plan be noted.

At this point, the Leader brought forward item 9, Emergency Personal Protective Clothing.

3561 Emergency personal protective clothing

Councillor Martin presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Martin moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

That approval be given to the continuous ordering of urgent local supplies of PPE via the Council's Adult Social Care Provider Hub, continuing to work with the Corporate Procurement team within Walsall Council and its regional partners, to secure appropriate items for best value and to also support the introduction of schools back to their Business as usual status as well as to introduce the wider internal workforce of the Council as part of the Reset Priorities. The timescales for this are from the 17 June until the end of December 2020-or before should the urgent demands for PPE subside as the Coronavirus risks reduce.

At this point, Councillor Martin left the meeting.

3562 Walsall's Local Outbreak Plan governance and delivery

Councillor Craddock presented the report:

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Councillor Craddock extended his thanks on behalf of the Cabinet to the Director of Public Health and the Public Health team for their work to prepare this complex document at short notice.

Councillor Craddock moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

- (1) That Cabinet notes the proposed arrangements for the Walsall Local Outbreak Plan Governance and Delivery methods as set out in the report and Appendix 2.
- (2) That Cabinet notes that the Health and Wellbeing Board would act as the "Local Outbreak Engagement Board" and that a revised Health Protection Forum (Appendix 1) has formal oversight of identification of actions to both prevent and manage outbreaks that will require continual and agile updating in light of further guidance and or national and local developments.
- (3) That authority for spend of the proposed national funding be delegated to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing and the Leader of the Council following consideration by Gold Command emergency planning forum and the Health Protection Forum.

3563 **Pre-Audit Outturn 2019/20**

Councillor Bird presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Bird moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Wilson.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

That Cabinet:

- (1) Note the revenue carry forwards from 2019/20 to 2020/21 set out in table 2 of the report.
- (2) Note the capital re-profiling and carry forwards from 2019/20 to 2020/21 set out in Appendix 1 and 2.
- (3) Note the pre-audit revenue outturn underspend of £291k and the pre-audit capital outturn underspend of £2.51m, after carry forwards, for 2019/20.
- (4) Approve that the capital underspend be utilised to support the 2020/21 capital programme approved by Council in February 2020.
- (5) Approve a variation to the 2020/21 capital programme for the funding of archiving costs for One Source, up to the value of £300k, to be funded from uncommitted carry forwards and/or underspends that occur during 2020/21, as referred to in 4.12.
- (6) Note the financial health indicators for 2019/20 as summarised in Appendix 3.
- (7) Note the 2019/20 prudential indicators in Appendix 4 of this report and Walsall's compliance with these indicators.
- (8) Note that the opening balances will be £14.38m as at 1 April 2020. This is considered a prudent amount for 2020/21 and is within the parameters required within the current medium term financial strategy (MTFS).

3564 Corporate Plan 2018-21 – refresh of performance measures 2020/21

Councillor Bird presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Bird moved approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Andrew and it was:

Resolved (by assent)

- (1) That Cabinet note the revised measures that will be used during 2020/21 to monitor delivery of corporate priorities as detailed in Corporate Plan 2018-21.
- (2) That Cabinet note the schedule for future reports to be presented during 2020/21.

3565 Disability facility lifts, hoists and associated works and services

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

It was noted that the decision on this matter would be made in the private session following consideration of a report containing confidential information.

3566 New independent foster care contract for West Midlands authorities

Councillor Wilson presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Wilson moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

- (1) That Cabinet authorise the Council to enter into the Access Agreement with Sandwell Children's Trust to join the new West Midlands Regional Foster Framework.

- (2) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's, to enter into 'call off' contracts with Independent Fostering Agencies who are awarded 'Fostering Framework Agreement' contracts by Sandwell Children's Trust pursuant to the new West Midlands Regional Foster Care Framework for a period of 3 years from 1 April 2020 with the provision to extend the ability to call off for up to one further year.
- (3) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's, to subsequently authorise the sealing of deeds and/or signing of contracts and any other related documents for the provision of such services, as appropriate, including any agreement with Sandwell Children's Trust to facilitate these services.
- (4) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's, to authorise any variations to the contractual arrangements or other related documents for such services should this be required throughout the duration of the term of any contracts.
- (5) That Cabinet note that the Executive Director of Children's Services approved a waiver dated 29/05/2020 to enable placements to take place compliantly from the new West Midlands Regional Foster Framework from 1 April 2020 pending full Cabinet approval set out in the above recommendations to access and use that framework.

3567 Safer Walsall Partnership – governance update

Councillor Perry presented the report:

(see annexed)

The Leader thanked Councillor Perry and the Safer Walsall Partnership team on behalf of the Cabinet and residents of Walsall for their work during the current Covid-19 pandemic.

Resolved (by assent)

- (1) That Cabinet accepts the Terms of Reference for the Safer Walsall Partnership.
- (2) That Cabinet notes the progress made by the Safer Walsall Partnership in these difficult times.
- (3) That Cabinet requests the Safer Walsall Partnership to produce an annual report on progress against the SWP plan 2020 and presented to statutory partners of the SWP.

3568 Private session

Exclusion of public

Resolved (by assent)

That during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda, the Cabinet considers that the items for consideration are exempt information by virtue of the appropriate paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, and accordingly resolves to consider the items in private.

Summary of items considered in private session

3569 Black Country Enterprise Zone – financial borrowing

The Cabinet received a report which sought to secure a number of approvals to enable the Enterprise Zone site delivery in support of the Black Country pipeline sites following a review by the Black Country Working Group.

Councillor Andrew moved approval of the recommendations which was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members.

The Cabinet approved that the Council provides grant funding and enters into a grant agreement to enable investment in the development of the site subject to a decision by the Black Country Joint Committee; and noted that any revenue costs for interest and minimum revenue provision associated with the capital investment set out in the report will be funded from existing resources until recovered from future business rates. The Cabinet also noted the proposed change in the direction of travel for the prioritisation of Black Country pipeline sites and the associated implications for the Enterprise Zone sites in Walsall.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

3570 Phoenix 10 project

The Cabinet received a report which followed a series of previous reports setting out a project which aims to secure investment in the borough that will enable substantial new employment floor space and significant job creation through the development of a significant site adjacent to the M6 Motorway.

Councillor Andrew moved approval of the recommendations which was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members.

The Cabinet made a number of decisions in relation to the entering into of legal agreements and noted that the funding package of the scheme was already included within the Councils approved capital programme and that revenue costs are built into the Corporate Budget Plan.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

3571 **Disability facility lifts, hoists and associated works and services**

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Andrew moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

- (1) That Cabinet approves the award of new contracts for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 May 2025 (based on an initial term of 3 years with an option to extend by two further periods of up to 12 months each) for the installation and associated works and services set out in Table 1, below:

Table 1

Lot 1	Straight stair lift	Dolphin Lifts Midlands Limited	Up to £529,600
Lot 2	Curved stair lift	Dolphin Lifts Midlands Limited	Up to £1,435,750
Lot 3	Through floor vertical lift	Dolphin Lifts Midlands Limited	Up to £1,814,977
Lot 4	Powered Lifting Platform / Step Lift	Terry Lifts	Up to £342,071
Lot 5	Ceiling Track Hoist	Prism Medical UK	Up to £273,319
Lot 6	Maintenance of lifts and hoists	Dolphin Lifts Midlands Limited	Up to £448,950

- (2) That authority be delegated to the Executive -Director of Economy and Environment, to enter into a new contract/s to deliver the 'Disabled Facility Lifts, Hoists and Associated Works' by using the most appropriate procedures and to subsequently authorise the sealing or signing of any contract, deeds or other related documents for such works and services.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

The meeting terminated at 4.40 p.m.